

REMARKS

The following remarks are fully and completely responsive to the Office Action dated April 26, 2005. Claims 2-5, 7-16 and 21-26 are pending in this application with claims 27-32 canceled and claim 26 amended. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 27 - 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101; and claims 26 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 27-31 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-5, 7-16 and 21-25 were allowed. Claim 26 is presented for reconsideration.

35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 27-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The cancellation of claims 27-32 renders this rejection moot.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 26 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orling (U.S. Patent No. 6,430,587). The cancellation of claim 32 renders this rejection moot as to this claim. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claim 26.

Claim 26 has been amended to recite the functions, recited by the means-plus-function claim elements of claim 9, which was allowed, as steps in the recited method. Consequently, claim 26 is in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 26.

Conclusion

Applicants' amendments and remarks have overcome the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated April 26, 2005. Specifically, Applicants' cancellation of claims 27-32 overcomes the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants' amendments and remarks regarding claim 26 overcome the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Accordingly, claim 26 is in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claim 26. Claims 2-5, 7-16 and 21-25 are allowed.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 108390-00026.

Respectfully submitted,
ARENT FOX PLLC



Rustan J. Hill
Registration No. 37,351

Customer No. 004372
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810
Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time
RJH/elz